



BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the Regular Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Thursday, March 6, 2008

The forum of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, March 6, 2008, at 3:00 p.m., at Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Erminia Ramirez
Jim Holley
Mohamed Okdie
Willie Hampton
Arthur Blackwell II

Department Personnel Present

Chief Ella M. Bully-Cummings
AC Ralph Godbee
AC Robert Dunlap
DC Jamie Fields
2nd DC John Clark
Cmdr. Gail Wilson-Turner
Cmdr. Jan Johnson
Cmdr. Paul Wells
Cmdr. Todd Bettison
Cmdr. Brian Stair
Lt. Charles Wilson
Lt. Jonnie Thomas
Lt. John Morrel
Lt. Darwin Roche
Lt. Dwayne Blackmon
Lt. Robbin Kirkwood-Farrar
Sgt. Kevin Miller
Sgt. Melanee Long-Thomason
Sgt. Michael Chambers
Sgt. Laura Stanton
Sgt. Sherley Bledsoe
Sgt. Romel Alexander
Sgt. Dwight Snodgrass
PO Sophia Nelms

PO Viera Brownlee
Atty. Grant Ha

Board Staff Present

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director
Denise R. Hooks, Attorney/Supervising Inv.
Lawana Ducker, Personnel Director
Arnold Sheard, Chief Investigator
Ainsley Cromwell, Supervising Investigator
P.O. Kent Cooper

OTHERS PRESENT

Bernice Smith
Ron Scott

RECORDERS

Terence Bell
Robert Brown

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairperson Holley called the meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:15 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- **Thursday, March 6, 2008**

MOTION: **Comm. Hampton** made the motion to approve the Agenda.

SECOND: **Comm. Holley** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Thursday, February 21, 2008**

MOTION: Comm. Okdie made the motion to approve the Minutes.

SECOND: Comm. Holley seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

- **Thursday, February 28, 2008**

MOTION: Comm. Okdie made the motion to approve the Minutes with the stipulation that the suspension without pay for PO Collin Eaton and Inv Joseph Rocha, I-210 shall stand unless there are contraventions.

SECOND: Comm. Holley seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Exec Dir. Goss stated unless contravened by this Board the suspensions without pay shall stand.

4. BOPC OFFICER'S REPORT

1. CHAIRPERSON

2. SECRETARY REPORT

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

2008 - Weekly Count of Complaints:

This Week

Year to Date

40

262

38%
Increase

9%
Decrease

2007 - Weekly Count of Complaints:

25



288

- The Office of the Chief Investigator has a total of **1,413** active investigations, of which **244** of those are for 2008.

TOTAL WEEKLY ALLEGATIONS & COMMAND

Total	COMMAND	ALLEGATIONS									Total
CCR	W/E 03/06/08	Arrest	Demeanor	Force	Harassment	Entry	Procedure	Property	Search	Service	Allegations
4	COMMUNICATIONS		1							3	4
3	EASTERN		1				1			1	3
1	HOMICIDE									1	1
2	NARCOTICS		1				1				2
9	NORTHEASTERN	1	6	1			3	1			12
2	NORTHWESTERN		1							1	2
4	SOUTHWESTERN*		3				2			1	6
1	TACTICAL SERVICES*		1				1	1			3
7	Unknown Command	1	3	1	1		3		1		10
1	VIOLENT CRIMES		1				1		1		3
7	WESTERN	1	4	2			3			1	11
41	*Note: 1CCR/2Commands	3	22	4	1		15	2	2	8	57

5. PRESENTATION/REPORT-CHIEF OF POLICE

<p>March 6, 2008</p> <p>Volume 4, Issue 10</p>	<h1 style="text-align: center;">Detroit Police Department</h1> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Report to the Board of Police Commissioners</h2>																				
	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>“Building a Safer Detroit Through Community Partnerships”</i></p> <p><i>The Detroit Police Department is committed to uphold its mission to provide a safe environment for our residents and businesses. This effort is not possible without the joint commitment of the community and the Police Department. We appreciate and value the role our citizens have played in helping us to take the guns and drugs off the streets of the city of Detroit.</i></p>																				
<p>Special Points of Interest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting: Thursday, March 13, 2008 @ 6:30 P.M. Butzel Family Community Center 7737 Kercheval Detroit, Michigan 48214 	<h3 style="text-align: center;"><u>SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS</u></h3> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div data-bbox="565 737 982 1050"> <h4 style="text-align: center;"><u>Narcotics/Gang Enforcement</u></h4> <p>During the period of February 25, 2008 through March 2, 2008, Narcotics/Gang Enforcement executed 41 search warrants and 24 street enforcement actions within the boundaries of the city of Detroit resulting in the following arrests and confiscations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 41 Felony arrests • 104 Misdemeanor arrests • 11 Juveniles <p>Confiscated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,117.50 grams of cocaine, 60.9 grams of heroin, and 886.60 grams of marijuana and 3,154 pills, street value • \$ 991,706.40 • \$ 78,141.00 in U.S. Currency • 30 Handguns </div> <div data-bbox="998 768 1451 1081"> <h4 style="text-align: center;"><u>Homicide</u></h4> <p>Due to the diligent efforts of Homicide investigators, a subject was identified and arrested for a deadly shooting which occurred in the 10000 block of West McNichols; and a warrant was issued charging the subject with “1st Degree Murder.”</p> </div> </div>																				
<p>Inside this issue:</p>																					
<p>Narcotics/Gang Enforcement 1</p> <p>Homicide 1</p> <p>Eastern District 2</p> <p>Southwestern District 2</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Engaging the Community</h3> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>ATTENTION</u></p> <p>Citizens wishing to make a police report may do so at the Districts in the city of Detroit. Citizens may also utilize the following District Sub-Stations to make reports.</p>																				
<p>Central District 2</p> <p>Western District 2</p> <p>Northwestern District 2</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Location</th> <th>Hours of Operation</th> <th>Telephone</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2151 E. Jefferson</td> <td>24 Hours</td> <td>596-6400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7737 Kercheval</td> <td>7 a.m. to 3 p.m.</td> <td>628-2121</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19810 Grand River</td> <td>10 a.m. to 3 p.m.</td> <td>935-5322</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13530 Lesure</td> <td>8 a.m. to 11 p.m.</td> <td>596-5300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2000 Livernois</td> <td>24 Hours</td> <td>237-2555</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Location	Hours of Operation	Telephone	2151 E. Jefferson	24 Hours	596-6400	7737 Kercheval	7 a.m. to 3 p.m.	628-2121	19810 Grand River	10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	935-5322	13530 Lesure	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	596-5300	2000 Livernois	24 Hours	237-2555
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March 6, 2008

Police / Community Intervention

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Eastern District

On February 25th, a subject entered a bank in the 14000 block of Gratiot and produced a note demanding money from the bank teller. The teller complied by handing the subject an envelope. Upon investigation, officers recovered the note, an envelope, other evidence, and were able to identify the subject who was a parole violator. The subject was arrested and charged with "Armed Robbery", "Bank Robbery", and "Count 3-Habitual 2nd." The subject was also linked to additional robberies.

Central District

On February 28th, officers responded to a "Robbery Not Armed" in the 9000 block of Woodward. Their investigation disclosed that the subjects were former employees. One of the subject's involved returned to the scene of the crime, and was quickly arrested. The subject was later charged with "Robbery Not Armed" and "Assault with Intent to Rob Not Armed."

Western District

While on patrol in the area of Davison and Dexter on March 1st, officers of the Western District observed a vehicle wanted for a "Robbery Armed/Unlawfully Driving Away an Automobile." Due to the officers observation and quick response, three subjects were arrested and charged with "Carjacking." As a result of the arrests, 14 "Robbery Armed/Unlawfully Driving Away an Automobile" cases will be closed.

Southwestern District

On February 25th, a utility wire theft occurred in the area of Stoepel and Westfield, which resulted in the malfunction of several traffic lights, and power failures that impacted a Fire Department Station and a Public School in Detroit, which led to an investigation by officers of the Southwestern District. The officers observed a suspect tampering with the utility lines and carrying copper electrical lines. Upon investigation, the officers found the subject in possession of rubber grip wire cutters and also wanted for a Parole Violation. The subject was arrested and subsequently charged with "Theft of DTE Cooper Wire exceeding \$1500.00."



Northwestern District

On February 26th, officers responded to the 14000 block of Stahelin on a "Shooting in Progress." Subsequent to the investigation, the subject was charged with "Assault with Intent to Murder", "Felony Firearm", "Felon in Possession", and "Habitual 2nd."

Chairperson Ramirez stated she is glad to see that the department will be offering training to the officers to help them to identify people with mental illness or who are developmentally disabled. She asked to know the start date.

2nd DC Clark stated he will check on the start date and let her know.

Comm. Okdie stated this is a direct result of the conference with the police department and Wayne County Community Health Agency. They are trying to develop the Memphis Model and use it for Detroit. It is paid by the Wayne County Community Health Agency with no matching funds.

6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no standing committee reports.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Ramirez acknowledged the arrival of the Chief, and Comm. Blackwell at 3:25 pm.

She asked Dir. Ducker if the attrition summary was a weekly report.

Dir. Ducker stated yes, ma'am.

Chairperson Ramirez stated there are nine that are on military leave.

Dir. Ducker stated that's correct.

Chairperson Ramirez stated there are 37 on medical.

Dir. Ducker stated that there are 34 on FMLA.

Chairperson Ramirez asked how long are they on FMLA.

Dir. Ducker stated they can be on FMLA for 12 weeks on an intermittent basis over the course of a year. Members can take a leave of absence that is approved by the Chief.

Chairperson Ramirez stated that means that their positions can't be filled.

Dir. Ducker stated that's correct.

Comm. Holley stated is there a law on the books that states that the department has to allow those who are in the military reserves to apply to become police officers.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated for many years, the department sought to specifically recruit members that had prior military experience. Many members join the reserves after they become police officers. Prior to the war, many of the reserves would do weekend duty. All agencies across the country have been affected by having their members deployed because of the war. It is illegal to decline a person who is in the reserves to apply to become a police officer.

Chairperson Ramirez stated this is being brought up to let the community know those positions can't be filled until that person returns back to work, and asked is that correct.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated that's correct.

Comm. Holley stated that he feels like the department is handicapped by the laws on hiring and by the unions. He stated he is frustrated and understands that the department is short on manpower, but can't understand why a person has to wait in the closet for two hours before they show up. He doesn't believe that the districts are working.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated she agrees with him in regards to the law and unions. But she would like to set the record straight because that situation hasn't been investigated and the Deputy Chief spoke prematurely to the news. As for the Districts not working, the department hasn't hired a single officer. They went to Districts because the department took a budget hit and it costs to staff all of those precincts. She stated she will be going before City Council next week to do a power point presentation.

Chairperson Ramirez stated that needs to be said at the community meetings.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated she refuses to go tit for tat with the newspapers, regarding homicides cases, because they will never print the department's side.

Chairperson Ramirez asked to know when the next class graduation would convene.

Chief Bully- Cummings stated the next class is about to take their post test, then there is about three weeks of DPD training. So, the next class will probably take place in about 4-6 weeks.

Dir. Ducker stated the next recruiting class would begin around March 24, 2008.

Chairperson Ramirez stated they would like to have a copy of the Chief's power point presentation.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated she would make sure that the Board receives a copy of it.

Comm. Blackwell stated over the last ten years, Detroit has lost over a million people. We have the most devastating economic depression that this country has had in a long time. The police or this Board can't solve the entire problem that the city is facing until the community decides that they need to take a proactive position. When you don't have jobs, hope or economics and the parents aren't there to teach their kids' morals, then that creates a lot of problems for a city like Detroit. The safest day of the year is Angel's Night because the citizens come out with the department and help police their neighborhoods. He told Comm. Holley if there were 40 churches that feel like him, then most of these problems can be dealt with, because the churches have a lot of the community members.

He stated this will be his last meeting and thanked everyone for the time he spent on this Board.

(Atty. Hooks entered the room.)

Comm. Hampton stated he would like to echo everything that Comm. Blackwell touched on and thanked him for all that he has brought to this Board.

MOTION: **Comm. Hampton** made the motion to request a Resolution for Comm. Blackwell.

SECOND: **Comm. Holley** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

(Atty. Hooks left the room.)

8. OLD BUSINESS

1. **GRANT:** EASTERN DISTRICT, CENTRAL DISTRICT, NORTHEASTERN DISTRICT, NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT, SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT, WESTERN DISTRICT, AND DETROIT POLICE COMMUNITY SERVICES' REQUEST TO APPLY FOR A METLIFE FOUNDATION GRANT

MetLife Foundation and the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) are partnering for the seventh year to recognize, sustain and share the work of innovative partnerships

between community groups and police to promote neighborhood safety and revitalization. Through this awards program, MetLife Foundation and LISC will identify and honor partnerships that exhibit tangible accomplishments in their efforts to advance the process, outcome, and/or evaluation of potent police-community collaborations. Eligible applicants must be member organizations of partnerships that include, but need not be limited to, community organizations and police.

The MetLife Foundation Community-Police Partnership Awards include two separate categories which emphasize different models of community-police collaboration. Applicants can apply under two separate award categories:

1. Neighborhood Revitalization Awards: Six monetary awards ranging from \$10,000.00-\$25,000.00 each will recognize exemplary collaboration between community groups and police that yields crime reduction as well as economic development outcomes, such as real estate development, business attraction and job growth. Winners of the Neighborhood Revitalization Awards agree to hold a local event in the summer or fall of 2008 to announce their award.
2. Special Strategy Awards: Five monetary awards of \$15,000.00 each recognize exemplary collaboration between community groups and police that yield significant public safety outcomes in one or more of the following areas:
 - Applied Technology
 - Aesthetics and Greenspace Improvement
 - Diversity Inclusion & Integration
 - Drug Market Disruption
 - Gang Prevention & Youth Safety
 - Seniors & Safety
 - School Safety

Eastern District, Central District, Northeastern District, Northwestern District, Southwestern District, Western District, and Detroit Police Community Services are currently in the process of preparing a grant application that meets the guidelines. These applications will be prepared and submitted by the grant deadline of Friday, February 29, 2008.

In the event that approval is granted to apply and the award is received, Deputy Chief Joyce Motley of Eastern District, Deputy Chief Shereece Fleming-Freeman of Central District, Deputy Chief Chester Logan of Northeastern District, Deputy Chief Leon Moore of Northwestern District, Deputy Chief Claudia Barden-Jackson of Southwestern District, Deputy Chief William Hudson of Western District, and Lieutenant Terry Herbert, of Detroit Police Community Services, will serve as the project directors.

Upon your approval, the Detroit City Council will be requested to adopt a resolution supporting these applications.

MOTION: **Comm. Okdie** made the motion to adopt the Grant.

SECOND: **Comm. Holley** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

**2. GRANT: REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO ACCEPT FOR A GRANT
WITH THE WAL-MART & SAM'S CLUB FOUNDATION FOR
"SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD HEREOS GRANT"**

Comm. Blackwell asked is the \$500.00 a misprint from the "number one" corporation in the world.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated that is not a misprint, sir.

Comm. Blackwell stated and you bother to put this on paper.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated the initial amount was \$3,000.00 and they partnered with them so they can have the survival guides printed. Chief stated the department doesn't turn down any sum of money.

Comm. Blackwell stated for a company that makes billions to give out \$500.00, he doesn't expect the department to turn down any money, but there should be a threshold in this forum on what is accepted. He stated he respects the award to the community but for a major company to give \$500.00 that is disrespectful to him and to be read into a public record.

Comm. Holley asked how much did you ask for.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated for the maximum, \$3,000.00.

Comm. Blackwell stated they didn't give you what you asked for.

MOTION: **Comm. Okdie** made the motion to adopt the Grant.

SECOND: **Comm. Holley** seconded the motion.

VOTE: There were 4 yes votes, and Comm. Blackwell abstained.

Comm. Blackwell stated if there's a motion to rescind the Grant and he will pay the \$500.00.

Chairperson Ramirez asked has the department spent the money.

Sgt. Chambers stated no, the acceptance of the award is depending upon this Board and City Council.

Chairperson Ramirez stated she would hate for the department to turn this Grant down and apply for another from Wal-mart and can't get it because you turned it down.

Comm. Blackwell stated the department didn't turn it down the Board of Police Commissioners did.

Chairperson Ramirez stated there is a motion on the floor to reconsider.

MOTION: **Comm. Okdie** made the motion to reconsider.

SECOND: **Comm. Blackwell** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Comm. Blackwell stated he wanted the Board to remember this vote the next time they get a grant for \$500.00 from a major corporation.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated you are right Commissioner; it costs the department more than \$500.00 to apply for this request.

Comm. Blackwell stated it is one thing to ask for \$500.00, but to ask for \$3,000.00 and they only gave you \$500.00.

9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, March 13 2008, @6:30 p.m.
Northeastern District
Butzel Family Community Center
7737 Kercheval
Detroit, MI 48214

10. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

B. Smith asked is the department hiring just Detroit residents, or from all over.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated the department can't decline an application because that person isn't a resident of the City.

B. Smith asked is that a ruling from the unions.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated it goes beyond the unions.

B. Smith asked could a person be hired who has something minor in their record.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated can't have a felony in their record, or they need to get it expunged. They will have to do that own their on.

B. Smith asked how long does it take.

Chairperson Ramirez stated even if they say you can get it expunged, you can't.

B. Smith stated if it's a misdemeanor they can.

Dir Ducker stated there are certain misdemeanor convictions that are unacceptable such as sex related, narcotics related, larceny related, and assault related.

B. Smith wished Comm. Blackwell good luck.

Chairperson Ramirez stated a request has been made by PO Darryl Randall, she moved that the Board of Police Commissioners conduct a closed session, pursuant to MCL 15. 268(a) of the Open Meeting Act, to consider personnel matters relative to this individual.

MOTION: **Comm. Blackwell** made the motion to enter into a closed session.

SECOND: **Comm. Holley** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Chairperson Ramirez stated the motion having been approved by a majority of the Board members, a closed session will now be convened.

They went into closed session at 4:20pm

They returned from closed session at 4:38pm

(Atty. Hooks is present.)

Exec Dir. Goss stated unless **contravened** by this Board the suspension without pay shall stand.

Chairperson Ramirez stated a request has been made by Chief Investigator Arnold Sheard, she moved that the Board of Police Commissioners conduct a closed session, pursuant to MCL 15. 268(a) of the Open Meeting Act, to consider personnel matters relative to this individual.

MOTION: **Comm. Blackwell** made the motion to enter into a closed session.

SECOND: **Comm. Holley** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Chairperson Ramirez stated the motion having been approved by a majority of the Board members, a closed session will now be convened.

Comm. Blackwell asked if he could give Mr. Scott a special privilege before he seconds that motion.

Chairperson Ramirez stated to Mr. Scott he has been given a special privilege.

R. Scott stated on behalf of his organization, they will like to thank Comm. Blackwell for all of his support. He hopes that the next person who fills that seat is open to community involvement.

MOTION: **Comm. Okdie** made the motion to go into closed session.

SECOND: **Comm. Blackwell** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

They went into closed session at 4:45pm.

They returned from closed session at 5:45pm

Comm. Blackwell stated there has been a recommendation for a written reprimand for Arnold Sheard and for the personnel subcommittee to look at any other sanctions to recommend to the Board at a later time.

MOTION: **Comm. Blackwell** made the motion for a written reprimand for Arnold Sheard and for the personnel committee to look at any other sanctions to recommend to the Board at a later time.

SECOND: **Comm. Hampton** seconded the motion

Comm. Okdie stated he would like to add that Interim be placed on the title of Chief Investigator.

Comm. Blackwell stated his friendly amendment is not acceptable, because the personnel subcommittee can make sanctions and go beyond that.

Comm. Okdie asked for a roll call vote.

VOTE: Comm. Hampton, yes; Comm. Blackwell, yes; Comm. Holley, yes; Comm. Okdie, no; Chairperson Ramirez, yes.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:47p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DANTE' L. GOSS
Executive Director
Board of Police Commissioners

DLG/rb